CALIFORNIA WATER BOARDS Central Coast - R3

Irrigated Lands Program

Electronic Notice of Intent (eNOI) Report Instructions

Table of Contents

Electronic Notice of Intent Requirement

The Central Coast Water Board's Agricultural Order regulates discharges from irrigated agricultural lands to prevent agricultural discharges from impairing waters of the state.

Owners and/or operators of irrigated cropland on or from which there are discharges of waste that could affect the quality of any surface water or groundwater, must enroll in the Agricultural Order by submitting and electronic Notice of Intent (eNOI). **The eNOI must be updated to reflect changes to operation or ranch information within 60 days of the change**, including any changes in acreage or contact information. The eNOI is entirely online and can be accessed on the Central Coast Water Board's Irrigated Lands Program Website.

There are two types of eNOI users:

- **New eNOI User:** Owners and/or operators that have not submitted an eNOI in the past must submit their initial eNOI as a "New eNOI User."
- **Returning eNOI User:** Owners and/or Operators that have already submitted an eNOI and have been provided with a username and password, must login to GeoTracker as a "Returning eNOI User."

New owners and/or operators should complete the eNOI as a "New eNOI User" and submit it by pressing the "Save & Submit" button. After verification of the initial eNOI submittal, the Water Board will provide a temporary username and password to the Operator/Responsible Party listed on the eNOI. Growers can then update the eNOI at any time and as necessary by logging in as a "Returning eNOI User."

Information Needed

- AW# if operation or ranch was previously enrolled
- Operation contact information
- Landowner contact information and associated assessor parcel number(s)
- Ranch contact information
- Date of last Farm Water Quality Management Plan (Farm Plan) update
- Number of domestic drinking water wells and agricultural wells on an individual ranch
- Drinking water notification(s)
- Ranch map(s) and location(s)
- Acres (irrigated and total tailwater)
- Irrigation type(s), crop type(s), chemical usage, backflow prevention, slope, impermeable surfaces
- Pesticide permit information

Operation Information

Section I: Intent to Enroll Operation

Name of operation	Enter the legal name of the distinct farming business. To change the Operation name, contact Water Board staff at AgNOI@waterboards.ca.gov .
Operator/Responsible Party	Enter the legal first and last name of the person designated as the Operator/Responsible Party.

	*The Operator/Responsible Party needs to be the name of an **individual person**, not a corporation or business entity name.* To change the Operator/Responsible Party name contact Water Board staff at AgNOI@waterboards.ca.gov .
Business mailing address	Enter the completed business mailing address where correspondence should be sent.
Phone, fax, email	Enter the phone number, fax number, and email address of the **individual person** listed as the Operator/Responsible Party. The Water Board uses email to remind growers of upcoming due dates and send notification regarding compliance issues. *All correspondence sent from the Water Board via email will be sent to the email address listed on the Operation eNOI.*

Section II: Submittal Type

Respond appropriately to all the questions in this section, check all boxes that apply and provide the required information. An operation that produces commercial crops sells the crop for commercial purposes.

Section III: Monitoring and Reporting Selections

Growers have the option to become a member of third-party programs to comply with different monitoring and reporting requirements. To become a member of a third-party program, Growers must notify the approved third-party program administrator of their election to participate in the third-party program.

Section IV: Farm Water Quality Control Plan (Farm Plan)

Respond appropriately to the question in this section, check the box that applies and provide the required information.

Section V: Water Quality Education

Growers must obtain appropriate farm water quality education and technical assistance necessary to achieve compliance with the Order. There are no minimum hours of education required. Growers do not report education to the Water Board but must maintain records in their Farm Plan.

Section VI: Authorization and Certification

Read the paragraph and provide requested information.

After submitting the eNOI, *the **individual person** listed as Operator/Responsible Party must sign the NOI* and the signed NOI must be sent via email or postage to the Central Coast Water Board:

Email: AgNOI@waterboards.ca.gov

Mail: Irrigated Lands Program
Central Coast Water Board
895 Aerovista Place, Suite 101
San Luis Obispo, California 93401

Ranch Information

Enter the name of the ranch.

Section VII: Ranch Status

Respond appropriately to the YES or NO question in this section. If YES is selected, enter the date when the operation began farming at each ranch location in the MM/DD/YYYY format. If NO is selected because the ranch is farmed for less than 12 months, the landowner(s) or primary leaseholder must enroll the ranch and submit the eNOI.

To terminate an active ranch enrollment, select “No Longer Farming at the Ranch/Farm” and submit a signed Notice of Termination to the Central Coast Water Board.

Section VIII: Ranch Location

Ranch address or location and city	Enter the physical location where your ranch is located. Provide and address or a road with the nearest cross street. Enter the city that applies to the ranch address.
Latitude and longitude	Provide the spatial location of each ranch using the online interactive location tool. The latitude and longitude coordinates should be located at the centroid of each ranch or at the center of the largest parcel. Click the button, “Mark the Ranch Location on an Interactive Map” then drag the red marker to the center of the ranch. Note: latitude and longitude coordinates are most accurately reported using the interactive locator map.

Section IX: Parcel Enrollment and Contact Information

Assessor Parcel Number(s)	Provide landowner information for the designated and corresponding Assessor Parcel Number (APN) for each parcel. If there are multiple parcels, provide the information for each parcel. Manually enter parcel numbers or click on the interactive map to mark an APN. All numeric digits and dashes should be entered in one box. For more than one entry use multiple boxes. If you need assistance determining your APN(s), contact your local assessor’s office.
Name of landowners(s)	Enter the legal first and last name of the legal landowner.
Mailing address	Enter the mailing address where landowner correspondence should be sent.
Phone, fax, email	Enter the phone, fax, and email contact information for the landowner.
Ranch contact	Enter the legal first and last name of the person responsible for managing the ranch and making the day-to-day decisions.

Mailing address	Enter the complete ranch contact address where correspondence should be sent.
Phone, fax, email	Enter the phone number, fax number, and email address of the ranch/farm contact person.

Section X: Maps(s)

The required ranch map can be a google map with the features added, like the map submitted to the Agricultural Commissioner's office. You must upload ranch maps directly to the eNOI on GeoTracker, using the eNOI submittal link, "Upload Ranch Maps."

The ranch map must contain the following information:

- Location of ranch including roads;
- Irrigation and stormwater runoff discharge points;
- Proximal surface waterbodies, groundwater wells, tile drains, tailwater or irrigation ponds, streams (perennial, intermittent, and ephemeral), riparian and wetland habitats;
- Location of latitude and longitude measurement indicated on the eNOI.

Section XI: Groundwater Monitoring and Reporting / Drinking Water Notification

Identification of groundwater wells	Provide the number of domestic drinking water wells and agricultural wells on each ranch. *If a well is both domestic and agricultural only report it once, as a domestic drinking water well.*
Drinking water notification confirmation	Respond appropriately to the questions in this section. Operator/Responsible Party must update their eNOI within 30 days of receiving results from the laboratory to confirm the following: a. Well users have been provided with a summary of laboratory analytical results. b. Well users have been provided with information regarding health risks associated with well water containing nitrate and/or 1,2,3-TCP in excess of their respective public health drinking water standards (i.e., maximum contaminant levels (MCLs). c. Well users have an alternate source of water for domestic purposes if the sampled well contains nitrate and/or 1,2,3-TCP in excess of their respective MCLs. d. If there has been a change in the population using the well in the past year (e.g., new tenants or residents), confirm that new well users have been provided with the information and resources described above.

Section XII: Ranch Characteristics

Total irrigated acres	Report total irrigated acres that are irrigated to produce a crop and in rotation within the next 12 months. Do not include acres that are roads, ponds, non-agricultural, dry farmed, or that only receive stormwater.

Total tailwater acres	Total tailwater acres is auto calculated and populated with the sum of acres from sections A, B, and C that are reported under, “Irrigation Discharge Type.” Irrigation water that is captured and re-used is not reported in this section. Stormwater runoff is not reported in this section.
Irrigation discharge type	Report irrigation discharge for acres used to produce a crop and in rotation within the next 12 months, defined as: • Acres discharging to only ditches or any other type of surface discharge; • Acres discharging to only tile drains or any other type of sub-surface drainage system; • Acres discharging to both ditches and tile drains; • Acres discharging to ponds. Enter values in all boxes.
Irrigation system type	Check all the irrigation types that most closely correspond to the ranch.
Crop type	Check the general crops grown in the past 12 months and/or in rotation within the future 12 months. For row crops, select the specific crop(s) from the drop-down lists.
Backflow prevention devices and well abandonment	Check all boxes that apply and provide requested information. Contact the County Agricultural Commissioner’s office for information about required backflow prevention devices. Contact the County Environmental Health Services for information on proper destruction of permanently abandoned wells.
Sustainability certification	There is currently only one approved sustainability certification: Sustainability in Practice (SIP) for wine vineyards. Respond appropriately to the questions, check boxes as appropriate, and provide requested information.
Additional questions	Respond appropriately to the questions in this section. For additional information about this requirement see Appendix A: Slope Reporting Guidance. **Slope.** Must be determined across the natural topography of the land. Measure the highest and lowest elevations of the land, then measure the horizontal distance separating the highest and lowest elevations. Determine the slope using the formula below (multiply the ratio by 100 to find the percent value). There may be more than one slope value if the low elevation has higher elevations in different directions. The highest slope value calculated (highest percentage numerically) is the value to be reported. **Slope Formula** Slope = (Elevation Difference / Horizontal Difference) X 100

	Slope. Value of slope expressed as a percentage. **Elevation difference**. Report in feet to an accuracy of one foot. **Horizontal distance**. Report in feet to an accuracy of one foot. **Impermeable Surfaces.** Plastic-covered surfaces that do not allow fluid to pass through, including polyethylene mulch and hoop houses.

Section XIII: Pesticide Permit Information

Operator identification number	This information can be located on the "Production Agricultural Monthly Pesticide Use Report" submitted to the Agricultural Commissioner's office following pesticide application. Report this information in the format: 2-digit county code - year permit expires – permit# XX – XX – XXXXXX Pesticide permit numbers must be current and modified when a change occurs. Do not report outdated permit numbers.
Site ID	The Site ID is the code assigned by the County Agricultural Commissioner that indicates a location where a pesticide application may occur. Report this information as it is reported on the Pesticide Use Report. Contact the County Agricultural Commissioner's office for the Site ID if unknown.
Name of permit holder	Enter the legal first and last name of the person who holds the permit for the Operation Identification Number to apply pesticides.
Specific chemical use	State whether diazinon or chlorpyrifos have been used in the past 12 months.

Remember to click, "Save Changes," to submit your form.

The form will not submit if required sections were left blank. Missing sections will be highlighted in yellow. After completing all sections click, "Save Changes" again.

The GeoTracker account homepage will appear when the eNOI is submitted successfully.

Questions and Assistance

Please visit us online at the Irrigated Lands Program website for additional information: https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralcoast/water_issues/programs/ilp/.

If you have any questions please reach out to Irrigated Lands Program Staff at (805) 549-3148 or AgNOI@waterboards.ca.gov.

Appendix A: Slope Reporting Guidance

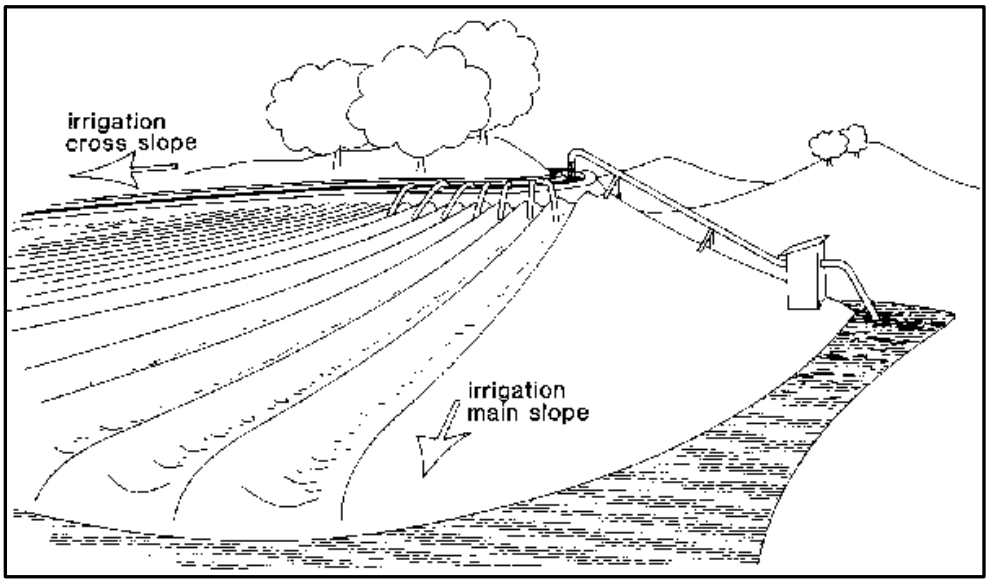
Reporting Requirement

The purpose of the percent slope reporting requirement on the eNOI is to gather information on ranch general characteristics and potential risk to water quality. There are no additional requirements in the Agricultural Order based on the slope of a ranch. The following is a general summary of the eNOI reporting requirement guidance:

- The highest (maximum) slope value calculated must be reported on the eNOI.
- The percent slope is the relationship between the amount of elevation rise or drop over a horizontal distance.
- Slope should be calculated based on current site conditions on the ranch.
- Slope should only be calculated for irrigated crop acreage.
- Slope measurements should not be made across stream beds, multiple watersheds, or other natural features that disrupt a continuous slope of irrigated land. As such, slope measurement across the entirety of a field or ranch may or may not be appropriate.
- The slope of levees, terraced banks, or benches should not be included in the calculation of slope.

Definition of Slope

Slope is the degree of upward or downward slant or inclination. A slope is the rise or fall of the land surface.



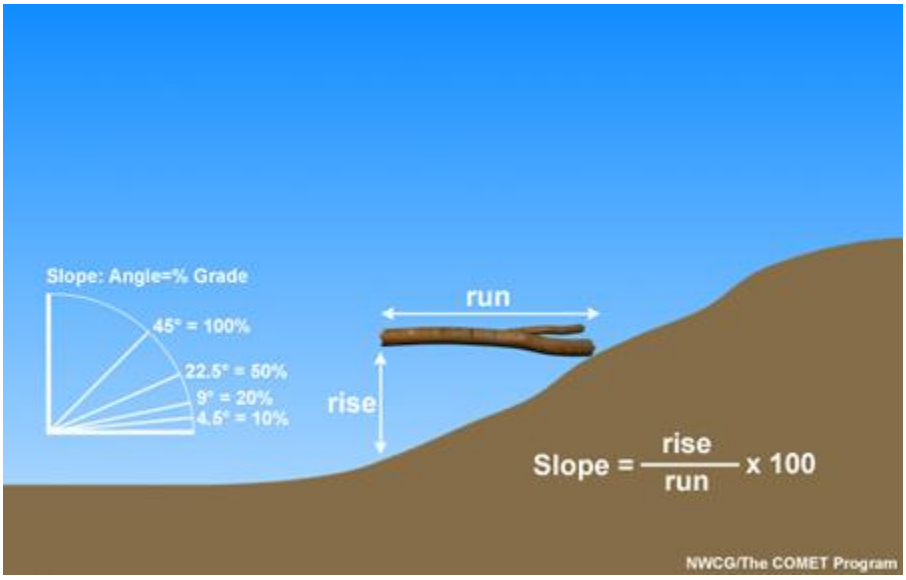
Source: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), Chapter 3, Elements of Topography, Slope Definition, n.d., retrieved on 09/07/2021 from the FAO website.

Slope Formula

The percent slope is the relationship between the amount of elevation rise or drop over a horizontal distance, expressed as the equation:

Percent Slope = Rise (change in elevation) /Run (distance in feet) x 100

How to Measure Slope



Source: National Wildfire Coordinating Group (NWCG), Slope, n.d., retrieved on 09/07/2021 from NWCG website.

Mapping Tools:

The following mapping tools are acceptable for use to calculate maximum slope for the irrigated acres on any given ranch.

Contour Maps

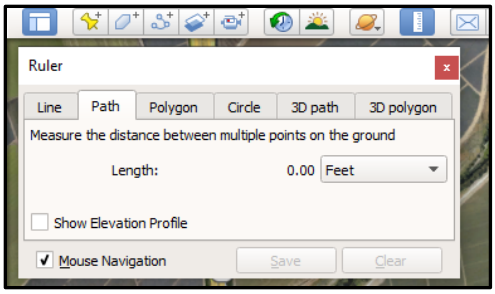
Contour maps are publicly available and can be downloaded free of charge through the U.S. Geological Survey National Map Data Delivery website. The website also has a training link with videos on using the map products and services, a help section, and frequently asked questions section. Forest Measurements (Joan DeYoung) provides a Tips for Measuring Percent Slope on Contour Maps.

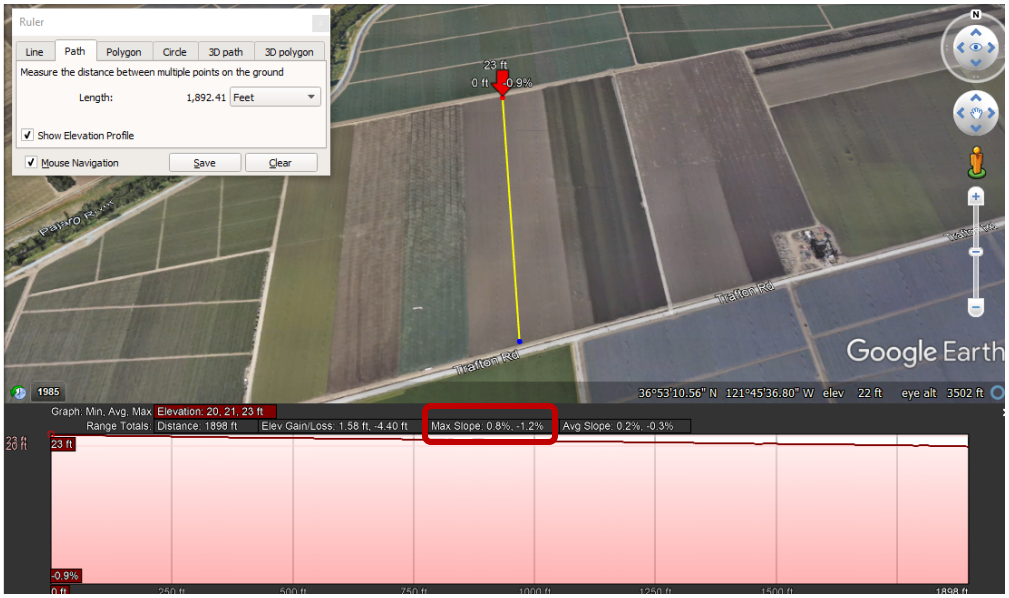
Google Earth Pro

Google Earth Pro is free, web-based mapping tool that includes a function to measure distance and elevation and calculates maximum and average slopes. The “Ruler” function allows the user to easily calculate the maximum slope on a computer.

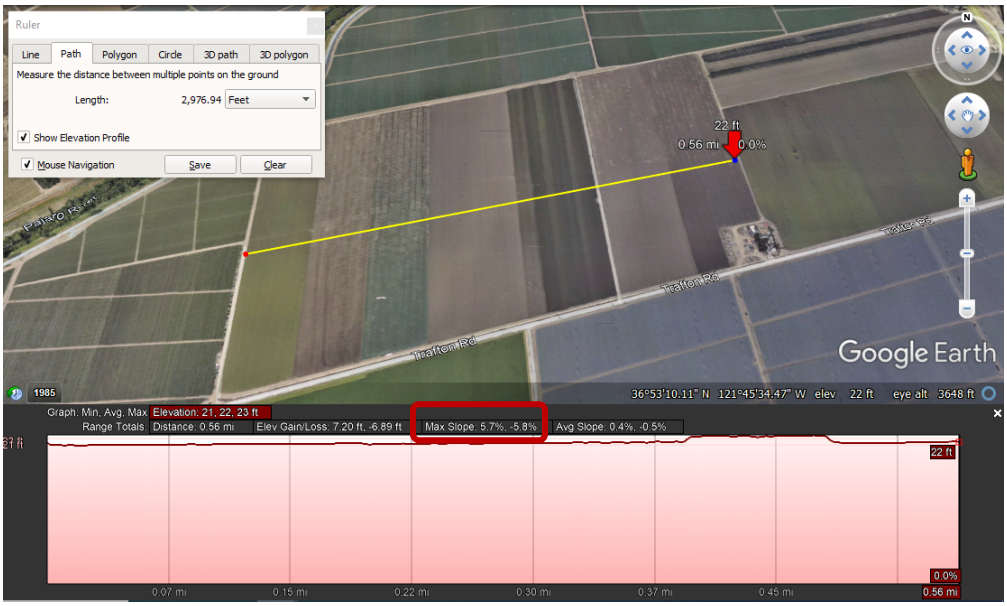
“Draw” a line across the landscape which calculates distance. Using the “Path” feature in the ruler and clicking on the “Show Elevation Profile” box. Google Earth Pro is can only accurately calculate slope for distances greater than 100 feet. See the example below and description of what to report and see additional examples of slope measurement using Google Earth Pro beginning on page 13 of these instructions.

The measurement tool in Google Earth Pro does all the calculations. There is no need to use the slope formula.





In this example, the maximum slope is 1.2%. The line should also be drawn horizontally to identify that is the maximum slope for the entire ranch.



In this example, the maximum slope is 5.8%. Report the maximum slope for the ranch as 5.8% (the greater of the two measurements).

Field Measurement Tools:

There are numerous hand-held tools that can be used in the field to measure slope: clinometers, levels, etc. There are also more sophisticated hand-held devices: GPS, precision altimeters, digital levels, electronic protractors, laser rangefinders, etc. There are also inclinometer apps for android and apple cellular phones but be sure to review the accuracy; some are very accurate, others are not. The more commonly used and least expensive tools are discussed below.

Abney Level

This hand-held instrument used since the late 1800s for backcountry surveying. To measure slope, set the protractor mounted on the side of the level with the appropriate scale to a fixed gradient. Next,

sight through the Abney to a fixed reference (usually another person) until a bubble appears in the crosshair. When the crosshair bisects the bubble, you've reached the preset grade on the Abney. The Abney has been replaced in recent decades by the clinometer. (Schmid, J., Trail Tools: Survey, Layout, and Measuring Tools, American Trails, n.d., retrieved on 09/07/2021 from the American Trails website).

Clinometers

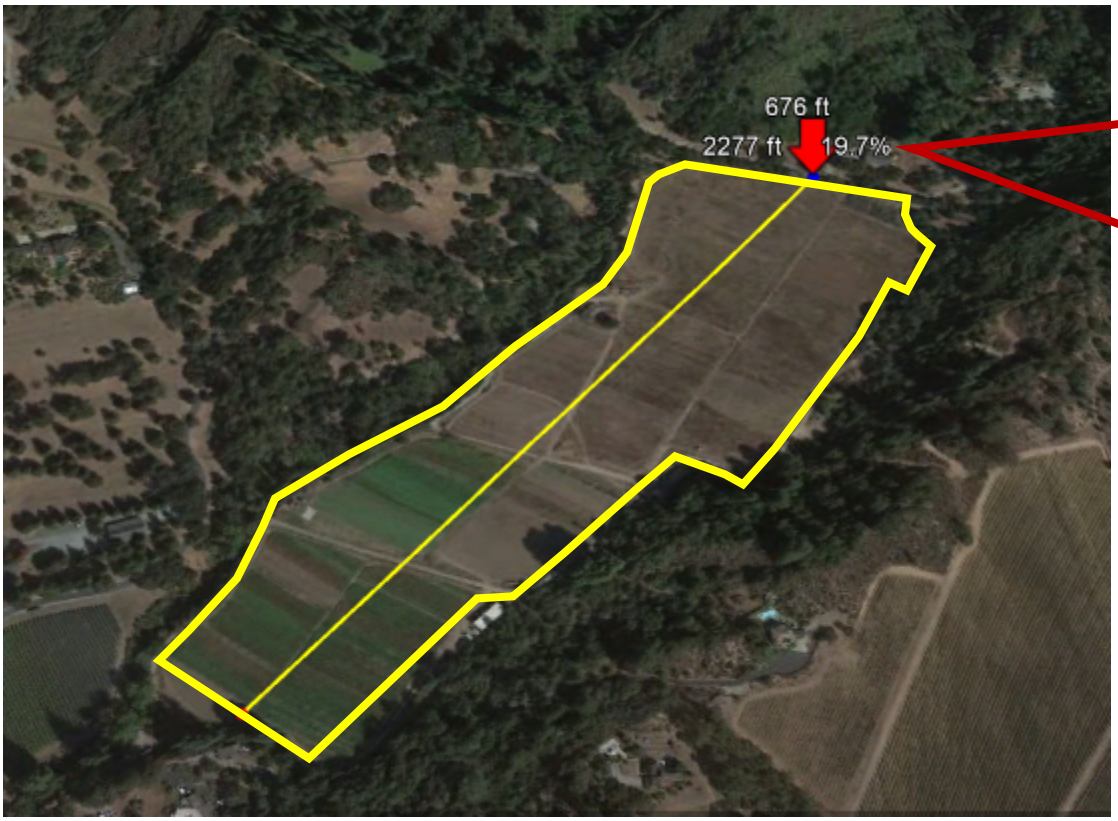
A clinometer can be used to measure soil slope between two points. It has a small hole used to read the soil slope in degrees scale and the equivalent in percent scale. It has a floating scale internally from which a slope is measured. Hold the clinometer to your eye and with both eyes open, sight parallel with the ground (upslope or downslope) to a target (stick or someone your own height), aiming at a point on the target that is equal to the height of your eye above the ground. Read directly from the percent scale. Percent slope is the relationship between the amount of elevational rise or drop over a horizonal distance. (Schmid, J., Trail Tools: Survey, Layout, and Measuring Tools, American Trails, n.d., retrieved on 09/07/2021 from the American Trails website). Forest Measurements (Joan DeYoung) provides an overview of the use of a clinometer to calculate slope: Assessing the Slope of the Land and Field Technique Tips for Measuring Slope. (DeYoung, J., Forest Measurements, n.d., retrieved from the Open Oregon Pressbooks website).

Measuring Wheel

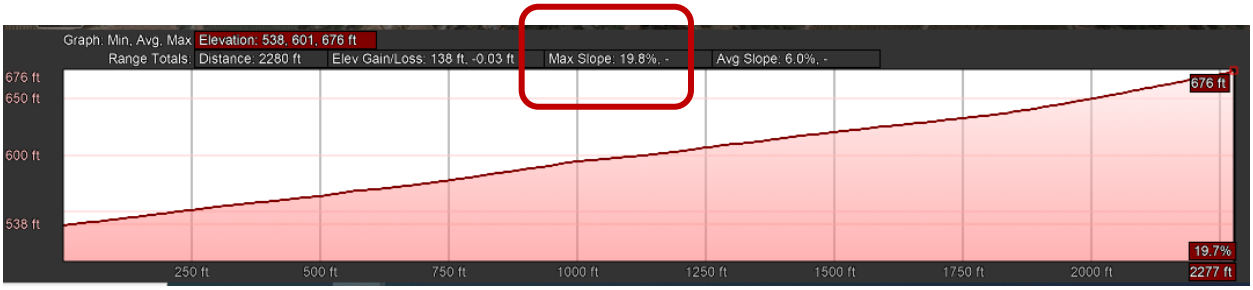
The measuring wheel is used to measure distance. It records the revolutions of a wheel and hence the distance traveled by the wheel. Measuring wheels can be used to measure distance for calculation of slope and then using a clinometer to calculate the rise. Combined, these give an accurate measurement of the slope between two points. (Schmid, J., Trail Tools: Survey, Layout, and Measuring Tools, American Trails, n.d., retrieved on 09/07/2021 from the American Trails website).

Google Earth Pro Examples:

Example 1



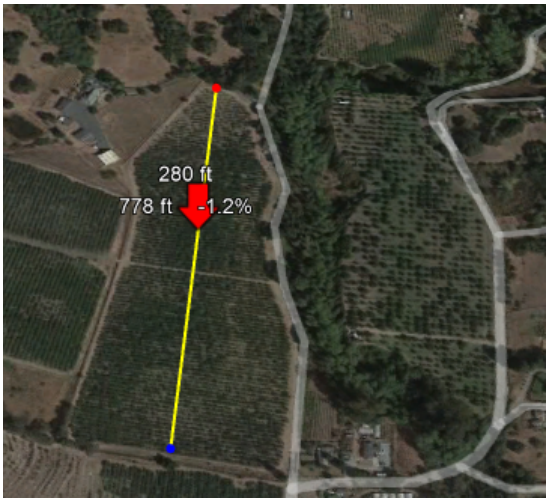
This information should not be used for reporting purposes. Use the elevation profile's "Max Slope" circled in red below.



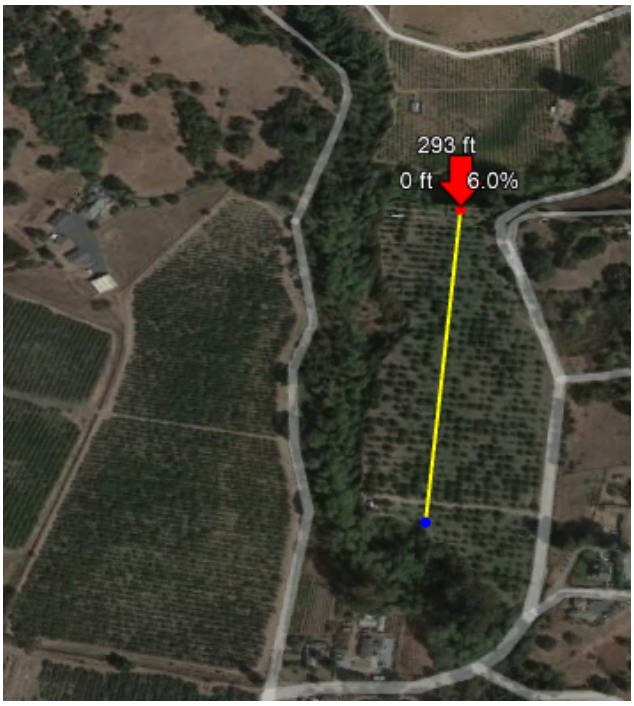
- Google Earth Pro calculates the maximum slope as 19.8%.
- With the line drawn across the entire ranch, the formula is going to calculate the average slope (676 – 538 / 2280 = .06 x 100 = 6%), not the maximum slope.
- Report the maximum slope for the ranch as 19.8%.

Example 2

Depicting a ranch divided by non-irrigated lands. Non-irrigated acreage should not be included in the measurement. Draw separate lines for the left and right sections (see images below). Report the maximum slope for whichever of the two ranch segments has the highest slope.



- Maximum slope for this segment is 7.2%

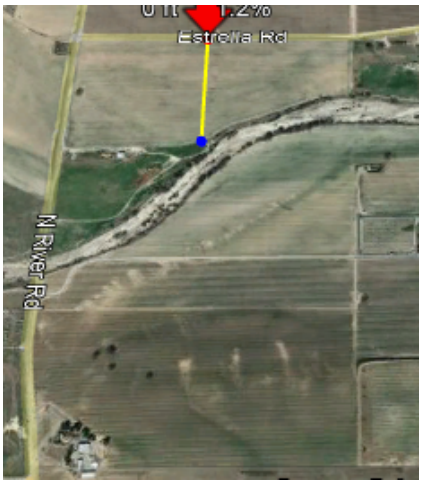


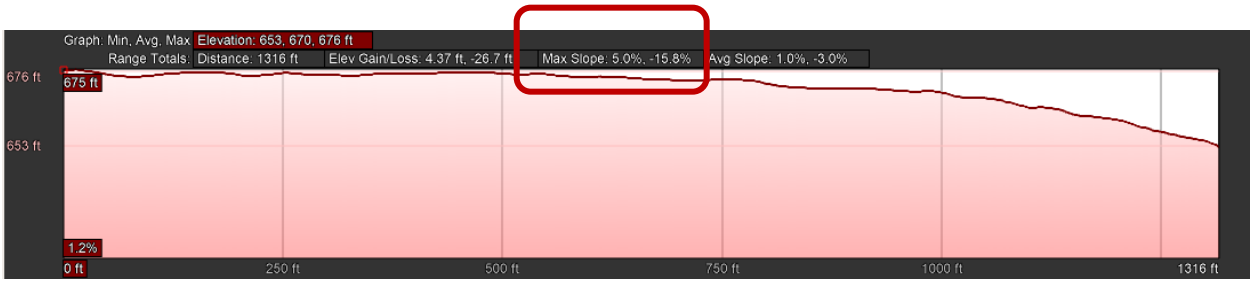
- Maximum slope for this segment is 6%
- Report the maximum slope for the ranch as 7.2%.

Example 3

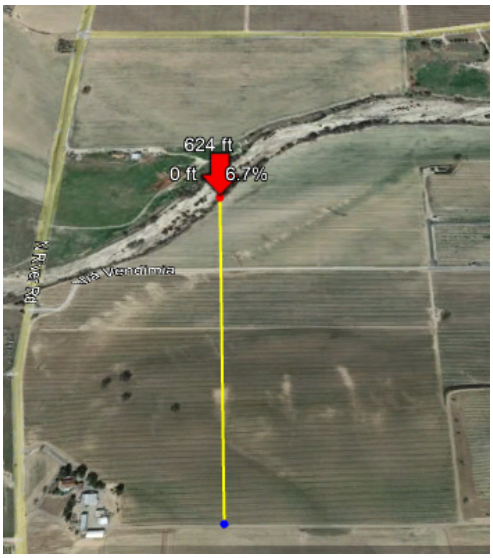
Depicting a large ranch divided by a waterbody and parcel with non-irrigated acreage.

- In the image on the left, the line is drawn improperly because it includes a waterbody channel, as well as areas that are not irrigated acreage.
- In the image on the right, the line is still drawn improperly because it includes a waterbody channel. The same would apply if the ranch covered two watersheds.
- Draw lines in segments to include only irrigated acreage and exclude waterbody channels (see images below).





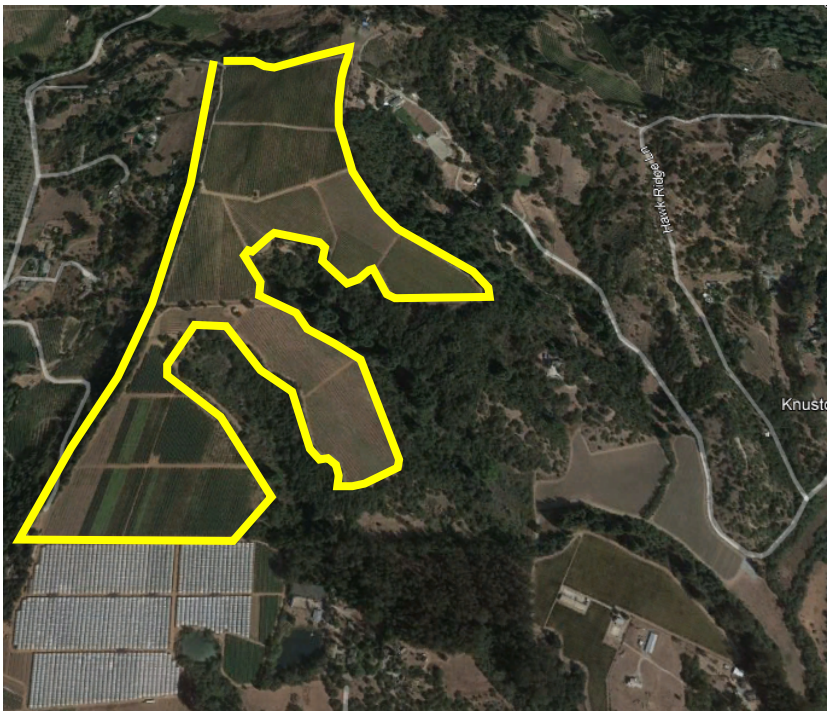
- Maximum slope for this segment is 15.8%



- Maximum slope for this segment is 19.3%.
- Report the maximum slope for the ranch as 19.3%.

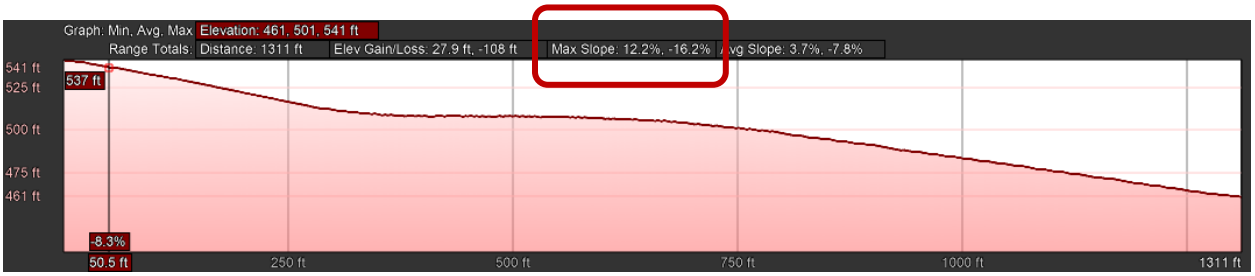
Example 4

Depicting a ranch with “fingers”.

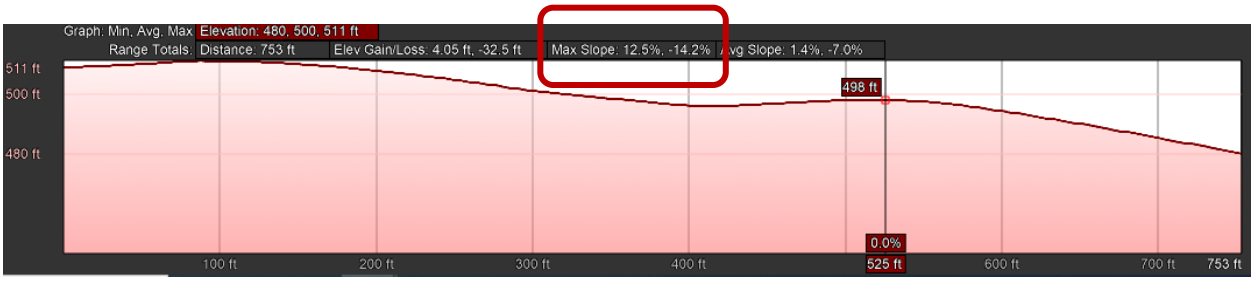


- Measure segments of the ranch as depicted in images below.

- Maximum slope for this segment is 37.6%



- Maximum slope for this segment is 16.2%



- Maximum slope for this segment is 14.2%

- Maximum slope for this segment is 24.4%

- Maximum slope for this segment is 20.3%
- Report the maximum slope for the ranch as 37.6%.